

AMENDED CLAIMS

[received by the International Bureau on 27 August 2005 (27 .08.2005);
Original claims 1-18 are replaced by Amended Claims **1**-26]

1. An apparatus for dispersing a fire suppression agent, comprising:
a housing defining a cavity, the cavity having an opening;
a cover for sealing the opening;
a fire suppression agent disposed within the cavity;
a flexible sheet disposed within the cavity, the flexible sheet configured to disperse the fire suppression agent upon opening of the cover with the opening downwardly oriented; and
a latch having a first position for maintaining the cover in a position to close the opening and a second position for opening the cover to disperse the fire suppression agent.
2. The method of claim 1 in which the flexible sheet is configured to disperse the fire suppression agent into multiple units of fire suppression agent.
3. The apparatus of claim 1 in which the flexible sheet is secured in part to the housing and in which the flexible sheet and fire suppression agent are disposed within the cavity such that upon opening the cover, at least a part of the flexible sheet falls outside the cavity.
4. The apparatus of claim 3 in which the flexible sheet is disposed within the cavity such that the flexible sheet overlaps itself, at least some of the fire suppression agent being disposed between overlapping layers of the flexible sheet.
5. The apparatus of claim 4 in which the flexible sheet is folded within the cavity and the fire suppression agent is disposed between folded layers of the flexible sheet.
6. The apparatus of claim 3 in which the fire suppression agent is disposed within a roll of the flexible sheet.

7. The apparatus of claim 6 in which the fire suppression agent is disposed within a tube of the flexible sheet

8. The apparatus of claim 1 in which the flexible sheet is configured such that a portion of the flexible sheet and the fire suppression agent move from the housing primarily by the force of gravity upon opening the cover.

9. The apparatus of claim 1 in which the flexible sheet is configured to unfold and release successive units of fire suppression agent upon opening the cover.

10. The apparatus of claim 1 in which the flexible sheet is configured to distribute the fire suppression agent alternatively in different directions upon opening the cover.

11. The apparatus of claim 1 in which the flexible sheet is sufficiently long to be folded over multiple times within the housing.

12. The apparatus of claim 1 in which the flexible sheet includes depressions for holding fire suppression material.

13. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a thermally activated trigger for moving the latch to the second position upon detecting a fire.

14. The apparatus of claim 13 in which the thermally activated trigger includes a bimetallic disk or a low melting temperature material that yields to an unlatching force as its temperature increases.

15. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a switch for signaling a device to remove an energy source from a stove.

16. A method of dispersing a fire suppression agent to extinguish a fire, comprising:

providing a housing including therein a dry fire suppression agent between layers of a flexible sheet;

unlatching a latch to open the housing and release the dry fire suppression agent, at least a part of the flexible sheet moving out of housing, the flexible sheeting dispersing the fire suppression agent as the fire suppression agent falls onto the fire.

17. The method of claim 16 in which providing a housing includes providing a housing in which the flexible sheet is folded into multiple layers and in which the dry fire suppression agent is positioned between the multiple layers.

18. The method of claim 16 in which dispersing the fire suppression agent includes distributing pulses of fire suppression agents.

19. The method of claim 18 in which the fire suppression agent distributes pulses of fire suppression agents in more than one different direction.

20. A method of making a fire suppression module, comprising:
providing a housing, a flexible sheet, and a fire suppression agent;
layering the flexible sheet with the fire suppression agent placed between the layers;
placing the layered flexible sheet and fire suppression agent within the housing; and
providing a latch to open the housing and release the flexible sheet and the fire suppression agent.

21. The method of claim 20 further comprising securing a part of the flexible sheet to the housing.

22. The method of claim 20 in which layering the flexible sheet includes folding the flexible sheet and placing fire suppression agent on the flexible sheet between the folds

23. The method of claim 20 in which layering the flexible sheet includes rolling the flexible sheet with fire suppression agent.

24. The method of claim 20 in which providing a latch included providing a thermally activated trigger to open the latch.

25. The method of claim 24 in which providing a thermally sensitive trigger includes providing a thermally sensitive trigger that includes a bimetallic disk or a low melting temperature material that yields to an unlatching force as its temperature increases.

26. The method of claim 20 further comprising providing a switch that signals device to remove an energy source from a stove.